



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010

No. 82

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Carl White, Highland Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi, offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord our God, in these turbulent times when rhetoric is hot and passions aflame, be with us.

Help the Members of this body to draw the lessons gained from the struggles of our history, that by respecting one another, we show the ultimate respect for You, our Creator.

Help us to remember that it is never wrong to stand for freedom and that it is always best when we listen more than we speak.

Show us anew the awesome power that is unleashed from the heart of love, and teach us yet again that most simple but profound lesson of life: that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Guide this House as they debate, vote, and interact with one another and their constituents. May we as a people conduct ourselves in such a way that we demonstrate our gratitude for Your continual blessings.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. CARL WHITE

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, I am honored today to introduce the House of Representatives' guest chaplain of the day, Dr. Carl White. He is the pastor of Highland Baptist Church in Meridian, Mississippi, and I can say that I would not be here today if it were not for my dear friend Carl White.

I met Carl in 1971 when we were 15-year-olds in the 10th grade in high school. We became great friends, and he invited me to join him for the Campus Life, Youth For Christ, meetings that were held at the high school. The last meeting of that year was when I made a profession of faith in Christ.

Then Carl invited me to join him at church, and it was there that I met my future wife. Sidney was 15 and I was 17 on our first date, and our first date was with Carl White and his future wife, Frances. Those are special memories. We have been at each other's weddings, and we have been dear friends now for almost 40 years.

Madam Speaker, I want to say what a profound impact that Carl White has had in my life and how we thank him for his service as pastor of the folks in his church. May God bless him.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RENEWABLE BIOMASS AND EPA

(Mr. SCHRADER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, America has tremendous potential for renewable energy production. Indeed, these are the jobs of our future.

One of the most important renewable energy sources for Oregon that binds rural and urban communities is the production of energy from forestry and agricultural byproducts, otherwise known as renewable biomass.

Unfortunately, it would appear that EPA is rewriting the rules in direct contravention to the intent of this Congress. In their final tailoring rule for regulating greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, the EPA ignores hundreds of studies and precedents from their own research that biomass combustion is indeed carbon neutral. This contradicts what was also included in the American Clean Energy and Security Act, which passed out of this very body.

Despite the tremendous benefit to engage our rural farmers and foresters to play a role in our renewable energy future, EPA has decided to legislate instead of administrate. Through this tailoring role, they are doing their best to alienate rural America and deny them the opportunity to be a part of our renewable future.

SOMALI ILLEGALS CROSS INTO TEXAS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security has issued a terrorist alert for Texas. An Islamic terrorist group from Somalia, al Shabaab, is infiltrating across our southern border.

A people-smuggling ring has been exposed through South America and hundreds of Somali illegals were given

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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